scan

SHANKILL COMMUNITY AREA NEWSLETTER

APRIL '26

Boxing Clever with Shankill Seniors Centre

CONTACT scan

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If you have any comments on any article or wish to contact us our details are:

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c/o Shankill Business Centre,
Station House,
Station Road,
Shankill

Tel: 086 1065264
E: scanshankill10@gmail.com
www.scanshankill.com

DISCLAIMER

SCAN Newsletter is produced by members of the Shankill Community who are voluntary, part-time and unpaid.

SCAN does not accept any responsibility for any views expressed in contributions to the newsletter. Neither does SCAN take responsibility for any service or otherwise advertised.

Due to space restrictions publication of all articles cannot be guaranteed.

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Shankill Seniors Centre

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SCAN has a new website www.scanshankill.com

We are extremely grateful to Péter, a new resident in Shankill, for all his amazing voluntary work in getting this new website up and running.

Over the last 52 years, SCAN's mission has been to bring together in print, for their mutual benefit, the residents, clubs, organisations, retailers and service providers in the greater Shankill area.

We know how highly the people of Shankill value SCAN, our Shankill Community Area Newsletter. So, in keeping with our mission, as Shankill expands with developments at Woodbrook, Shanganagh Castle and Abingdon already on stream (approximately 1,400 homes) and with several more planned in the coming years, we want to reach out to connect with our new neighbours, highlight community events, promote local businesses and celebrate the people and organisations that make Shankill such a great place to live.

Currently it costs in excess of €1 to produce each copy of SCAN so it doesn't make sense environmentally, economically or in terms of the limited number of volunteers we have to deliver, to attempt to continue in print format only. While we will continue to distribute the 4,000 hard copies (10 issues each year) we have decided to extend the reach of SCAN by going digital on our new website ***www.scanshankill.com***.

Initially, we will simply be uploading SCAN online and will continue to build our archive of previous issues. However, as time goes on, and we monitor the hits and get readers' feedback, we will continue to make changes to ensure that SCAN remains current and beneficial to all our readers and supporters.

We welcome email feedback to help us achieve this at ***scanshankill10@gmail.com.***

WWW.SCANSHANKILL.COM

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

◆ EDITORIAL

SCAN has a new website *scanshankill.com.* You can now read a digital copy of current and past issues online. The archive of previous issues is still very much a work in progress. If you are new to the area or not, you can find out more about the history of the SCAN newsletter over its 50+ years of operation, the impact it made in the Shankill area and about our hopes for the future.

- If you have a business or service you want to advertise to people living in Shankill or the surrounding area, you can find information and details of our advertising rates on the website.

We hope you enjoy the April issue and we wish all our readers, advertisers and distributors Happy Holidays at Eastertime.

URGENT: *We are looking for a volunteer or two to deliver SCAN copies to Rathsallagh Grove (67 houses) and Rathsallagh Park (114 houses) in the Rathsallagh Estate (near the DART station) on an ongoing basis. If you think you can help us with this you can contact us by phone and leave a message: 086 1065264 or email us at scanshankill10@gmail.com for more information.*

◆ LISTENING EAR - SUPPORT NETWORK FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED PEOPLE

The Network is open to persons of any faith and none. Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 7.30 - 9p.m. in the Resource Centre.

You are welcome to contact **087 364 6067** or email *listeningear14@gmail.com* and a supportive compassionate person in the network will respond and together you can discuss how we can be of help to you.

Complete confidentiality is guaranteed and everyone will be warm and friendly.

NOTE: *As the refurbishment works taking place in the Resource Centre may not yet be finished, new members should contact us by phone on the usual day of the meeting to check the venue for it.*

◆ AA MEETINGS SHANKILL

Alcoholics Anonymous hosts meetings in Crinken Church Parish Hall every Monday at 8.30 p.m. and in St. Anne's Community Centre (beside St. Anne's Church) every Sunday at 8.30 pm. Doors open around 8.15 pm.

A welcome awaits you.

◆ BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

St. Anne's Resource Centre, Shankill.

If you are grieving the loss of someone special or have had a loss of any kind and would like to talk to someone, Bethany Bereavement offer free support to adults, with sympathy and compassion in confidence.

We have a drop-in service on the first Friday of each month at 10.30 am or if you prefer, we can meet with you in person. Just call the **01 282 2704** to arrange.

◆ BOOK SALE - SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE

The next book sale will be held on Saturday 4th April and the following one on Saturday May 2nd. Venue: Shankill Seniors Centre, Lower Road, Shankill, D18 HW95. Time 10am-1pm. Donations of books in good condition are welcome on the day of sale. Due to major storage issues these are limited to one small bag per person. Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated. All proceeds go to support the Centre's programmes and services.

We need a few strong volunteers to move furniture and help set up the book sale on the preceding Friday afternoon from 3.30 - 5pm and to dismantle the sale from 1- 2.30pm on the Saturday. If you think you can help, please email *sscbooksale @ gmail.com.*

◆ SVP SHANKILL CONFERENCE

Do you need our help?
You can call us directly at **087 696 2785**. Alternately, call 01 855 0022 or go online at *www.svp.ie.*

◆ SHANKILL LIBRARY

Shankill Library is currently closed for essential conservation and improvement works. A temporary Library is in operation from Stonebridge Community Centre, Stonebridge Grove, Shankill D18FH04 every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-4pm ibncluding through lunch.

◆ CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Shankill Seniors Centre (SOFA), Lower Road, Shankill. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th April and the following meeting will be on May 14th. Venue: Shankill Day Care Centre, Lower Road, Shankill. Time: 7.45 p.m. Come along and enjoy some lovely music and a cuppa and chat.

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HOLY WEEK & EASTER

CRINKEN CHURCH

2nd April - Holy Communion 10.30am

3rd April Good Friday Service 7pm

5th April Easter Sunday
Holy communion 9.30am
Easter Service 10.30am

RATHMICHAEL PARISH CHURCH

Wednesday 1st April 8pm
Service of Contemplation for Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 2nd April 8pm
Service of Holy Communion to mark the Institution of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 3rd April 8pm
Service of Tenebrae as we reflect on the Cross

Easter Day 5th April
Easter Dawn Gathering on Rathmichael Hill *(details to be announced in Church)*
8.30am Service of Holy Communion
11.00am Festival Service of the Eucharist for Easter

We extend a warm invite to everyone in the community to join us during Holy Week and to celebrate Easter.

ST. ANNE'S PARISH, SHANKILL

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Wednesday 1st April – Spy Wednesday

Mass - 10am & 7pm
Reconciliation Service - 7.30pm

Thursday 2nd April - Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper with washing of the feet - 7pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 8pm

Friday 3rd April - Good Friday

The Way of the Cross, led by Children of the Parish - 12 noon
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion - 3pm
Taizé Prayers - 7pm

Saturday 4th April - Easter Saturday

Vigil Mass - 9pm

Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday

Mass 10am, 12 noon & 6pm

Easter Monday 6th April

Mass - 7pm

Children's Easter Egg Trail beginning Sunday April 5th,
(see Church noticeboard and Newsletter)

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday, April 25th
Virgil Mass - 5pm

Carlos Acutis Youth mass with relic of Carlos, celebrated by Bishop Donal Roche

Cemetery Sunday, May 31st

Mass in St. Anne's Church, Shankill (D18 VH64) at 2pm followed by blessing of the Graves at 3pm in Shanganagh Cemetery

We would like to wish everyone a Blessed, Peaceful & Joy filled Easter

Citizens Information

TWELVE WAYS TO PREVENT YOUR IDENTITY BEING STOLEN

Amongst the biggest fears that people might have is **Identity Theft.** Identity theft occurs when someone gathers enough information about you to enable them to impersonate you usually with the aim of getting money.

1. Remember that your bank or other financial institution will **never, never** ask you for any personal or financial information by email or by phone.
2. The Revenue Commissioners Or Social Welfare will never ask you for any personal or financial information by email or by phone.
3. Check your credit rating to make sure that it is intact. Under data protection law you are entitled to see your full credit report, which financial institutions use when assessing you for loans etc. Contact the **Irish Credit Bureau** on 01 2600388 or online at www.icb.ie
4. Change all your on-line **passwords** regularly. One big problem with the increase in online usage is that we are inclined to use the same password for everything. This is not a good idea. Ideally you should have a different password for each account. If that is not practical, add an extra code to your core password.
5. Don't share **passwords or pin numbers** with anyone else and do not write them down. Also do not use the same password / pin number combination for everything. If something happens to your PC or Laptop (or the organisation you have the online account with has a data breach) having the same password/pin number combination could result in you giving away the "keys" to all your financial affairs.
6. **Shred or burn sensitive documents**, such as financial statements, before throwing them away. Delete your name and address and account number from catalogues and direct mail offers or shred / burn those pages as well. Do not put documents with your name and address on them in the bin without obliterating any personal details. If you need a lot of shredding done, there are reputable shredding companies that will come to your house and do the shredding there for you.
7. If you **move house or apartment**, be sure to redirect your mail through the post office for at least six months afterwards. Also be sure to notify anyone or any organisation you have regular communication with of your new address. Check with the **post office** if important mail that you have been expecting does not arrive, as it could have been intercepted or redirected. If you have a shared letterbox or communal hallway where post could be taken by others, be especially vigilant, or ask for secure, individual facilities. Check your post box regularly.
8. Install the **latest security software** on your PC / Laptop and update these programmes regularly.
9. **Only use secure websites for online shopping** – look for the closed padlock symbol or http:// at the start of the address.
10. **NEVER, EVER REPLY** to emails asking for information such as ACCOUNT NUMBERS, PASSWORDS OR PIN NUMBERS. Do not click through to any website such emails direct you to. Check with the organisation the email appears to come from, using an existing number or email address that you have, or directory enquiries service. Also, **never** use the telephone number given on the doubtful email.
11. **NEVER give personal information to cold callers**. This applies to the phone, the internet or face to face. If you get a call telling you that there is something wrong with your PC / Laptop and asking you to provide personal information, tell them you do not have a computer - this call is a **SCAM**.
12. Limit the information you share on social networks such as F**ACEBOOK etc**. Be especially careful about giving out such information as dates of birth or children's names that you may use as pin numbers or passwords for other things.

How CRIMINALS can get hold of your details

a. Postal interception, bin dipping and old addresses
b. Stolen Wallets or purses or card-holders
c. Phishing emails
d. Thieves "changing "your address
e. "Computer virus" phone calls
f. Calls telling to tell you that you have won a prize and asking for bank details to enable the prize to be sent to you.

These are just examples – there are other methods also
(Source: citizens information, gardai etc.)

You can get further information from the Citizens Information helpline: 0761 07 4000 OR - Call in to the Citizens information Centre at Marina House, Clarence Street, Dun Laoghaire at any time between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday. No appointment necessary. Clarence Street is the turning to the right at the traffic lights at the junction of Lower Georges Street, Cumberland Street and York Road, Dun Laoghaire. Citizens Information offers a Free, Confidential and Impartial Service to the citizens of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown on a very wide range of issues. Or Phone: 0761 07 7400.

NOTE – MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service) are located in the same building. Private appointments with MABS can be made by phoning: 0761 07 2530

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Our Juvenile Academy
"The best GAA Academy in the World" Well that is what our Junior and Senior Academy children keep telling us. Having fun and laughter while learning new skills is the recipe for success. Qualified coaches are always in attendance and they are supplemented by our own young players who have themselves, have come through the under-age groups to be fine young adults. All equipment is available free to use, and there is no fee payable in the initial weeks as the children make new friends and enjoy themselves. Our super Academy is in Rathmichael School every Saturday morning from 10.00am to 11.00am. Boys and Girls aged from 4 to 6 years are very welcome. The Academy is sponsored by 0NYR.ie insurance.

New Sponsor of the Academy ONYR.ie
We are delighted to announce that ONYR.ie insurance is sponsoring our super Academy. New t-shirts have already been distributed to the children and more investment will go into equipment and training. Thank you, Donal, for your sponsorship which is vital for our club. Pictured is club coach Gemma with a young player modelling her t-shirt, also Donal Cronin of ONYR.ie. Remember support local business, for all your insurance claims contact Donal at ONRY.ie.

New Ladies Manager
We welcome Darren Holton to our club as the new Manager of the Adult Ladies football team. Darren has wide experiences in the Ladies game and will be a fantastic addition to our Ladies section. Welcome Darren to Shankill.

Go Girl Lucy
Hard work pays off. Lucy who has come all the way from our Academy, was selected on the Dublin under 16 football team for their match against Meath. It was not to be Dublin's day; however, Lucy had an outstanding game and played for the entire 60 minutes. Playing from the half back line she also contributed a point to Dublin's tally. Well done, Lucy.

Adult Teams. New players?
As we look forward to the new season for our Ladies and Men's football teams and our new hurling team beds in, we need to strengthen our panels of players. There has been some retirement of players who have given sterling service to the club over the past ten years. A great spirit of "we are family" thrives in the club as can be seen by the Norton family as they proudly support Dad as he hurls with Shankill in a game in Bray recently. If you are new to Shankill or would like to get back in the game, join the Shankill GAA family. Contact Steve 087 6414123.

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513921	Excel Associate - Microsoft Specialist	*13/04/2026*
513917	Cyber Security (Online)	*13/04/2026*
513900	ICDL - Microsoft packages	*13/04/2026*
513919	Social Media for Business	*13/04/2026*
513929	Career Success – Achieving and managing your career progression	*13/04/2026*
513897	Start your own Business	*13/04/2026*
513913	Food Safety level 1 (Online)	*15/04/2026*
513924	Food Safety level 2 (online with exam in person)	*20/04/2026*

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This project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.

SHANKILL FC
Part of Our Community

For opportunities on all our boys & girls' teams from U7 to Senior teams and our academies:

Email: info@shankillfc.ie
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X: @ShankillFC
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Registration for our Champions League Tournament is filling up very fast. Open to boys & girls born in 2011 to 2022 including a dedicated girls section. Also a discounted price for Academy children, both members and non members for boys & girls born in 2020 to 2022. Demand is at an all time high this year after last year's huge success, where over 600 players competed for Champions League glory. Late booking fee of €15 per person applies to registrations made after 31st May. We look forward to welcoming you all for this year's tournament. To secure your child's place visit www.shankillfc.ie or scan the QR Code.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Shankill FC take on Strictly Come Dancing.

We are looking for male and female volunteers to take part in our first ever end of season event this June.

Professional dance lessons 2 hours a week for 6 weeks provided.

If interested, please contact Yvonne on 0830214885 for more information.

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FOR SHANKILL FC
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For our end of season event
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-2 evenings a week
-meet new people and have some fun
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SHANKILL BOWLING CLUB

by Jack Byrne, P.R.O

With the addition of a new viewing canopy attached to the clubhouse premises of Shankill's bowling club, members need never worry about inclement weather spoiling their view of games as this new semi enclosure ensures their comfort. Well done to the astute planning of the present Executive. As in previous years, a recruitment drive will take place in May this year on the scheduled dates of Saturday 2nd (2-30 to 4-30 pm) and Sunday 3rd (1-30 to 4-30 pm) where the club welcomes anyone interested in playing this ever increasing sport for all. So keep these dates and times in mind and we invite all to drop by and give it a try. Our club coach, Eric, awaits to welcome you.

Registration of players willing to play competitively for Shankill Bowling Club has now taken place from lists of members' preferred choice for the coming summer season; the registration will determine what campaigns lie ahead for the members.

Presently the run up to Easter lamb competition continues each Tuesday, as in previous years, and has proved to be a very popular competition among members. It is drawn by lottery each week until Easter, when the overall winning team members collect their vouchers.

The club's scheduled AGMs of indoor and outdoor committees for the 2026 season were efficiently completed at our club premises on Quinn's Rd at the latter end of February. Although the attendance was below expectations due to extremely inclement weather, nevertheless the business of the meetings proceeded as planned.

The results of both incoming committees were decided by the members' motions naming their particular candidates who were willing to go forward for the positions available.

Results for the 2026 bowling season were as follows:

Indoor Bowling Committee - Captain: Irene Power-Parsons, Vice Captain: Noel Mulhall, Secretary: Paula Furniss.

Outdoor Bowling Committee - Captain: Martina Doherty, Vice Captain: M. Humby, Secretary: Eric Furey, Competitions Secretary: Des Swords.

It is envisioned that both committees will meet within the coming weeks to determine team lists & 2026 ILB registration of players for competition in the coming season.

President Colin Shepherd, having seen the business concluded, thanked the members present for their attendance on such a wet evening before duly adjourning the meeting. On a final note, the present Shankill bowling club Executive wish to thank all their members who line out week after week to compete for their club in ILB Leagues and Wicklow E.C.B.L. Indoors on shortmat, as well as all our other members who enjoy the game of bowling. You all play a part in making Shankill Bowling Club successful.

SHANKILL TENNIS CLUB

by Club P.R.O

It has been an exciting season at Shankill Tennis Club. Many of our league teams performed brilliantly in the DLTC Winter League this year, with most progressing to the play-off stages. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the commitment, teamwork and spirit shown by our members throughout the wet weather we have been experiencing. We would also like to wish our junior league teams the very best of luck as they continue their journey through their leagues. It is wonderful to see so many young players representing the club with enthusiasm and developing their skills on court.

This year is particularly special for Shankill Tennis Club as we celebrate our 40th anniversary. Over the past four decades the club has come from a small shed with few courts and has grown into a vibrant sporting and social meeting point for the local community, and we look forward to marking this milestone with our members and friends throughout the year with lots of social events.

Membership at Shankill Tennis Club is always open, and anyone interested in joining can sign up online at www.shankilltennisclub.com. Non-members are also very welcome to enjoy the club's facilities. Members of the public can call the club on 01 282 5400 to book a tennis court and pay as they go, we love welcoming people from across the Shankill community into our club.

Finally, we continue to see great success with our padel courts, which opened last year and have proven extremely popular. The courts are available to book online and offer a fun and social way for players of all levels to get involved in the sport.

We look forward to seeing many familiar and new faces at the club throughout this special anniversary year.

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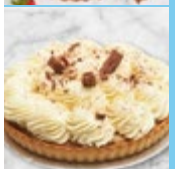

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SHANKILL LIBRARY

Shankill Library is currently closed for essential conservation and improvement works. A temporary library is in operation from Stonebridge Community Facility, Stonebridge Grove, Shankill D18 FH04 every Monday to Thursday from 10am-4pm including through lunch.

Upcoming Events include:

Page to Screen Bookclub
Interested in reading those stories that became more. Join us on Monday 13th April at 11.30am for our adult Page to Screen Book club where we will discuss some of our favourite movies/ TV series and the books that inspired them. No booking required.

How to use online library services
Do you need some help using our online resources? We are here to provide support through one to one, 30 minute sessions where you will get an introduction to some of our online services including Borrowbox and Libby. All you need is your library card and pin, available for free at your local library. Please let us know in advance which resources you would like help with. Every Thursday from 3pm-4pm. To book call 01 2047224 or email shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie

Ciorcal Comhrá
Have you always wanted to practise your spoken Irish but were reluctant to do so? Well, this is an opportunity to overcome that fear. Join us every Wednesday at 11am for friendly conversation and meet others who welcome this opportunity to chat as Gaeilge. Fáilte isteach agus bí ag caint! No booking required.

Junior Boardgame Club
Come join us for a fun afternoon, playing some of the most popular boardgames for children. We have a great selection of games including Kerplunk, Junior Monopoly, Guess Who and more. So challenge yourself at our boardgame club every Wednesday from 2.30pm. Please note this is a staff led event for children aged 7yrs+. No booking required.

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Return to Calm

St. Anne's Resource Centre, Shankill

Monday, April 13th at 10:00 am
Wednesday, April 15th at 6:30 pm

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FINANCE CORNER

by Shankill Financial Services

Why do many women feel less confident about planning for retirement, and what practical steps can they take to improve their financial future?

For many women, planning for retirement can feel distant, complex or even intimidating. New research from Aviva Life & Pensions Ireland highlights some of the challenges women face as they approach retirement. A 31% gender pension gap means women retire with significantly less pension savings on average than men. At the same time, many women feel uncertain about their current financial position. Over half of women say they don't know what their pension is worth or what it's invested in.

This uncertainty can create unnecessary stress. More than half of women say they feel anxious when thinking about retirement. But gaining clarity about your financial position is often the first step toward building confidence.

Understanding where you stand today can make retirement planning far more manageable. Checking the value of your pension or reviewing your online account can provide a clear starting point. With a clearer timeline, it becomes easier to consider steps such as increasing contributions, reviewing investment choices or adjusting long-term goals.

Confidence in investment terminology and financial products can often act as a barrier. Aviva research shows that many women feel less familiar with pensions and investment products compared with men, even though they are increasingly involved in household financial decision making. In fact, 72% of women aged over fifty report having sole or significant input into financial decisions in their household.

Support and guidance can make a significant difference. Speaking with a financial broker can help clarify your current position, explore retirement options and build a structured long-term plan. With clear information and the right support, many women find their confidence grows quickly.

Ultimately, retiring well isn't about having all the answers from the start. It's about taking practical steps, building knowledge over time and staying focused on long-term goals. Women already bring many of the qualities needed for successful investing - discipline, patience and thoughtful decision making. With greater clarity and support, those strengths can help turn retirement planning into a confident and achievable journey. Women's financial journeys are rarely straightforward. Careers, family life, and personal milestones often unfold in different ways and at different times. From starting your first job and understanding your payslip, to buying a home, starting a family, returning to work, and eventually planning for retirement, each stage brings new financial decisions.

That is why financial progress doesn't have to follow a perfect timeline. The key is building simple habits early, reviewing your finances as life evolves, and taking small, consistent steps to strengthen your financial future. Whether it's starting a pension, building savings, or reviewing your protection cover, each action helps build confidence and long-term security.

Every woman's path is different, but with the right support and planning, a strong financial future is achievable.

Source: RedC Research & Aviva research, February 2026.

HISTORY: LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURES

by James Scannell

KILLINEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Tom Conlon will present *'Long-term housing problems in Kingstown/Dun Laoghaire - symptoms, diagnosis, and solutions'* at 8 p.m. on Tuesday April 07 in the Druid's Chair Pub upstairs lounge, Killiney Hill Road, Rocheshill, Killiney, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5.

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY
Adrian Le Harivel will present *'A Shopping Guide to Victorian Dublin'* on Wednesday April 08 and Eamon Delaney *'The Old Tenements and the New Suburbs'* on Wednesday April 22. Both lectures take place at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room of Dublin City Library & Archive, 139-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All are welcome – admission is free and no booking is required.

BALLSBRIDGE, DONNYBROOK AND SANDYMOUNT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Dr. Susan Mullaney will present *'A Forgotten Dublin Hospital: The Pidgeon House Hospital'* at 7 p.m. on Thursday April 09 in The Hive, Herbert Park, Dublin 4. All are welcome – members are free – admission for non-members is €5.

KILMACUD-STILLORGAN LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Don McEntee will present *'The Design and Construction of the Rathmines Waterworks at Bohernabreena in the 1880s'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday April 09 in St. Lawrence's Parish Centre, Lower Kilmacud Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. Members are free – visitors are €3. Please note that there is a car parking charge of €1 per hour at this venue – coin payment only

KILMACANOGUE HISTORY SOCIETY
Ms. Êtain Murphy will present *'Monkstown Parish Church (COI)'* at 8 p.m. on Monday April 13 in Kilmacanogue Parish Hall, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. Admission is €10 for non-members.

DUN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The AGM and Annual Treasure Night takes place at 8 p.m. on Wed April 15 in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. All are welcome - admission is €5. Free hotel parking is available for those attending this lecture.

DUBLIN BAY OLD GAFFERS ASSOCIATION
Peter Pearson will present *'The Granite Coast – A Journey through the South Shore of Dublin'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday April 16 in Bay Poolbeg Yacht and Boat Club, Ringsend Road, Dublin 4. Donation to the R.N.L.I. at the door.

BRAY CUALANN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Peadar Curran will present *'The Icehouses of Wicklow – a brief history'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday April 16 in the Royal Hotel, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All are welcome – admission is €8 for non-members.

FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB
Deirdre Nuttall will present *'A People's History of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown'* at 8 p.m. on Tues April 21 in Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, Foxrock, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - admission is €5. Philip Lecane will present 'Windsor House' at 6.30 p.m. on Mon April 27 in Deansgrange Library. Admission is free but booking is required at 01-2047218.

THE IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY
Ken Fox will present *'More ramblings from the 1980s'* at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday April 23 in the Society's Dublin Hueston Station premises. Strictly members and their guests only.

CLONDALKIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Declan Warde will present *'Children need help, and I am going to help them': Dr. Ella Webb (1877-1946)'* at 8 p.m. on Monday April 27 in Áras Chrónáin – Irish Cultural Centre, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5.

RATHMINES, RANELAGH & RATHGAR HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Paddy Gleeson will present *'Dead Interesting: Tales from Glasnevin Cemetery'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday April 30 in Rathmines Town Hall, Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. Members are free / visitors €5.The Swan Car Park Rate is €3.50 for the first 2 hours; €3.50 per hour thereafter.

SHANKILL – LOOKING BACK

FARE EVASION
At an April 1926 sitting of Shankill District Court before District Justice Reddin, a former railway employee, who pleaded guilty, was fined £2 and 10s costs on each of two charges of fare evasion whereby he and his wife has used out of date tickets to travel from Wexford to Dublin the previous October but had been caught by a ticket checker.

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RATHMICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Richard Ryan

If you combine a popular topic with an excellent speaker who is an expert on the subject, you will draw the crowds. This is what happened when Matthew Stout delivered his talk on 4th March on "The Irish Ringforts after Three Decades" which attracted an audience of 75 people.

While everybody knows and celebrates the achievements of the elites and of the scribes, the stone carvers and the metal-workers of early medieval Ireland, details of the lives of ordinary people are less well-known. This is where the ringfort becomes so important because it is where every class of the lay population lived.

Matthew pointed out that Ireland is extremely lucky to have a site type of this period which was occupied by ordinary people. This is very rare in other countries where the surviving site types are those which were occupied by the elites.

There are about 47,000 surviving ringforts. They are variously referred to by the names *lios*, *rath* or *caiseal*. However in contemporary sources they are called dún which is an ancient word for a complete circle.

Early medieval Ireland (431-1169 AD) was a culturally unified society based on a cattle economy. This determined that the normal site type should be circular (for efficiency) and be surrounded by an earthen embankment to protect cattle at night and at times of danger. It was the cattle economy that drove the construction of the ringforts, the vast majority of which were constructed in the period 550-850 AD. It is notable that construction of ringforts began to slow down at the start of the Viking period when grain began to become more important than cattle.

Interestingly, the Brehon Laws and early Irish poems provide detailed descriptions of ringforts and their dimensions which are confirmed by modern archaeological excavations.
Our next lecture is entitled "The Houses of Meath" and will be delivered by Aisling Durkan at 8pm on Wednesday, 1st April. This will be the last lecture in the current series.

Our members will not be inactive, however, as our outings programme commences shortly thereafter:

- 1st April: *The Hill of Slane and Tara*, walking tour led by Anthony Murphy.
- 16th May: *Dame Street Palaces of Industry* led by Adrian Le Harivel.
- 23rd May: Repeat of 16th May tour.

All talks are at 8pm in Rathmichael School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co.Dublin and are wheelchair-accessible. Non-members are welcome to attend our talks on payment of a €5 entry fee which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. The talks are also accessible on Zoom.

See website for further information:
www.rathmichaelhistoricalsociety.ie

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NEWS

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AN TÉALAINN

by Bríd Brien

Is cuimhin liom nuair a chuaigh mise agus m'fhear céile go dtí an Téalainn. Ba mhí an Mhárta é - séasúr na gréine. Is breá linn an teas, ach nuair a tháinig ár n-eitleán i dtír in aerfort Bangkok agus osclaíodh na doirse, bhuail an teas sinn cosúil le tonna brící. Níor chreid muid go raibh an teocht ins na h-ard tríochaidí.

Ar feadh trí lá, shiúlamar timpeall na príomhchathrach ag baint taitnimh as na radharcanna. Ní fhacamar riamh an oiread sin daoine, an oiread sin tuk-tuks ag déanamh a mbealach trí shráideanna plódaithe agus boladh na bochtaineachta i ngach áit. Bhí áthas orm an áit a fhágáil i mo dhiaidh agus dul ó thuaidh go dtí an Triantán Órga. Ach ar dtús, caithfidh mé insint daoibh faoin ár gcuairt ar an bPálás Mór i mBangkok.

Ní raibh an pálás seo cosúil le haon phálás eile a chonaic muid riamh. Bhí sé cosúil le gairdín ina raibh struchtúir agus foirgnimh ollmhóra ann, inar chónaigh ríthe Shiam agus níos déanaí na Téalainne.

I ngach áit a chuaigh tú, bhí tú tógtha go hiomlán ag na dearaidh chasta a bhí fite fuaite ina chéile ar na foirgnimh. Bhí sraith de Bhúdaí órga ina suí go maorga le taobh a chéile agus céimeanna bána ag dul suas chucu.

Ach an rud ab ansa ar fad liom ná na spuaiceanna ildaite ag síneadh suas chun na spéire. Le h-imeacht na mblianta, briseadh agus thit cuid de na tíleanna, ach bhí páistí in aice láimhe ag péinteáil cinn nua le cur ina n-áit.

Agus sin é mo scéal. Mura raibh tú sa Téalainn go dtí seo, mholfainn go mór duit dul ann.

An Ghluais: An Téalainn / Thailand: tar i dtír, tar chun talún / to land: an teocht / the temperature: an Triantán Órga / The Golden Triangle: Pálás Mór / Grand Palace/ na dearaidh chasta / the intricate designs: fite fuaite ina chéile, ceangailte go dlúth le chéile / intertwined: sraith / row: spuaiceanna / spires.

Nóta: Bíonn Grúpa Comhrá Gaeilge ag bualadh le chéile gach Aoine i dTeach Tábhairne Uí Bhrádaigh ag 11r.n. Tá fáilte romhaibh.

SHANKILL CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

by Malcolm Fitzell

MEMBERS' CHOICES BRING RICH VARIETY: SHANKILL CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB, FEBRUARY 2026

Gioachino Rossini in 1828

The February meeting of the Shankill Classical Music Club, held on Wednesday 11 February 2026, took the form of a warmly anticipated "Members' Requests" evening. The selections, presented by John Ashworth, spanned three centuries of music, with the majority drawn from the Romantic era.

The programme opened with Rossini's overture to L'italiana in Algeri, conducted by Carlo Maria Giulini, followed by the famous aria Una voce poco fa from The Barber of Seville, sung by Maria Callas. Rossini (1792–1868) is best known as an innovative and prolific opera composer who had an amazing output of 39 operas including 34 over a 13 year period.
We continued with Franz von Suppé (1819-1895) and his Poet and Peasant Overture with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Herbert von Karajan, before a move to the Baroque - Prelude from the First Cello Suite by Bach (1685-1750) played by Yo-Yo Ma.

Then followed the Intermezzo from the Organ Symphony No.6 by Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937), one of the best known French composers of organ music. Technical advances in organ construction in the 19th century resulted in instruments of unprecedented size and complexity eminently suited to the Romantic genre.

We then heard Schubert's Impromptu in A-flat, played by Murray Perahia, and Beethoven's gentle slow movement from the "Spring" Violin Sonata, performed by Renaud Capuçon and Frank Braley, highlighting how Beethoven could combine Classical poise with deep expressive feeling. Romantic storytelling emerged in Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade, conducted by Alan Gilbert, before Liszt's piano showpiece La Campanella (Grandes Études de Paganini, S. 141: No. 3), displaying the virtuoso brilliance of Tamas Vasary. A moving contrast came with Purcell's Dido's Lament, sung by Anne Sofie von Otter — Purcell (1659–1695) being one of England's greatest early composers of vocal music.

The twentieth century was represented by Shostakovich's serene Andante from his Second Piano Concerto, with Leonard Bernstein both conducting and playing, and by Rachmaninoff's warmly melodic Cello Sonata, performed by Gautier Capuçon and Yuja Wang.

The Adagio from Mozart's Clarinet Concerto and the exuberant finale of Beethoven's Violin Concerto then brought the evening to a close.

The Shankill Classical Music Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:45pm in Shankill Senior's Centre, Lower Road, Shankill, D18 HW95. All with an interest in good music are most welcome.

SCHOOL NEWS: ST ANNE'S NS

Seachtain na Gaeilge
Recently, News2day came to Third Class and interviewed them about Seachtain na Gaeilge.

The class were chosen to be interviewed because they answered some of News2day's weekly questions online. The class found it cool, exciting and interesting, although some of them were nervous at the beginning. Overall, they found it really fun.

We asked them about what they made for Seachtain na Gaeilge and some of their favourite things they made were flags, shakers and bangers.

Some of the questions News2day asked them were: *Do you like Irish? What are your plans for Seachtain na Gaeilge?* and *How are you preparing?*

They were looking forward to the St Patrick's Day parade in Shankill Village. Third Class love learning Irish and speaking it. They have been practising poems and songs in Irish. Their favourite song is "An bhfaca tú mo Sheamaisín?". They have been learning this song for the Ceoilchoirm.

Their class, as well as many others in our school,were really excited about Seachtain na Gaeilge and all its exciting activities.

Chess Tournament in Scoil Mhuire
Some of our students took part in a chess tournament in Scoil Mhuire. A big well done to everyone who took part.

Spelling Bee
by Alice

This month in school we did a spelling bee. Most classes did it, except for Junior and Senior Infants. Ms Elmes called out a word and then the person said the word, spelled it and then said it again.

There were two winners from each year because two classes were spelling at the same time. They were on the stage and if you won first place you got a €10 book voucher, a giant chocolate bar and a certificate. If you got second place you received a chocolate bar and a diary.

Each person also got a certificate and if you participated you got a small bag of jellies. It was so fun to watch people doing spellings and loads of people made posters for their friends and for their class.

These were the winners from each class group:
First Class: Eoin Edwards, Tom O'Grady
Second Class: Eoin Shannon, Lily Sheridan
Third Class: Mathew Millar, Ryan McHugh
Fourth Class: Jack Mullen, Elliot Kernan
Fifth Class: Luca Conroy, Crína Dahila
Sixth Class: Laura Clinch, Tori Bailey

Texaco Art Competition
Lots of our students created lovely artwork for the Texaco Art Competition. Here are some of the beautiful entries below.

Shankill TidyTowns — Glanbhaile Seanchill

Silver: 2021, 2019, 2017 2016, 2013

Gold : 2025 2024, 2023, 2022

Bronze: 2018, 2015, 2014 2012, 2011, 2010

Congratulations & Thanks

Shankill TidyTowns are extremely grateful for the support over the years from Frank Flynn and the team at DLR Parks, Shanganagh Park.
Congratulations to **Niall Craven** on his recent promotion which unfortunately means that he is moving to Fernhill. We will miss him!

Tidying the entrance to Shanganagh Park

Shankill TidyTowns Needs Your Help

Now that Spring is here, it's time for Shankill TidyTowns to get ready for the summer. Our regular work teams are busy tidying various areas of our community. While the main focus is on the Village and the principal approach roads, attention is also given to other locations

Our teams meet from 10am to noon on Tuesday and Saturday, with the location notified to volunteers by WhatsApp, often with a cup of coffee when the work is done. Volunteers come whenever available.

Other volunteers do what they can, typically litter picking, at a time that suits them, either individually or in small groups. Other works may include planting or watering flowers.

There are also many other activities with which we need help, from biodiversity and sustainability projects to getting our website back online.

Please contact us on shankillmatters@gmail.com and help us ensure that Shankill is the best that it can be.

email:
shankillmatters@gmail.com

SCHOOL NEWS: RATHMICHAEL NS

This time of the year is busy in school with a number of activities taking place.

10th February was Safer Internet Day and the children took part in related quizzes, power point lessons, art items and Kahoots. They worked on important topics such as bullying, internet usage and staying safe online. My thanks to Mrs Crammond for coordinating this. In conjunction with this an Art Competition was held. Well done to everyone for their contributions and congratulations to the winners.

On 13th February, a group working with Mrs Harte gave a brilliant performance for the older classes and for their parents, the theme of which was the 1990's (the olden days!). They were all so confident, funny and word perfect and it was an amazing production. Thanks to Mrs Harte and the children involved for all their hard work.

On 23rd February, 6th Class took part in a Marine Institute workshop with Mona McCrea of Seashore Kids, as part of the Explorers Education programme. We were delighted to be one of only two Dublin schools chosen to look after some incredible new classmates for two weeks – hermit crabs, small crabs, sea anemones, prawns, a cushion starfish and some periwinkles. The pupils helped set up the tank in the classroom and the whole school was mesmerised by the beautiful creatures in our care. Well done to the Hockey Teams for recent results – the Boys' team had an excellent win over GKNS on 23rd February, while the two Girls' teams played Dalkey School Project on 2nd March and came away with a win and a draw.

The Boys' Football team had their first league match against St Mary's NS on 4th March and showed great spirit to come back to draw 2-2, having been 2-0 down. Coach Eoin was very proud of their commitment and team work.

On 5th March the children (and staff) celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as their favourite book characters. There were some amazing outfits on show. The children all received World Book Day vouchers and created themed artwork with the best pictures winning prizes.

5th and 6th Class pupils took part in a Cycle Safety Survey on 3rd March to establish current cycling skills among the students and 6th Class will shortly commence Cycle Training in school run by the Cycling Safety School and are looking forward to it.

Many thanks to the PTA for organising our recent Art and Wine Evening for parents. The PTA put a huge amount of work into the event so my thanks to them. The Hall was decorated with the children's amazing artwork – well done to all of them and to the teachers for their inspiration and hard work.
From 9th March, we will have a fun filled week for Seachtain na Gaeilge with a variety of activities to encourage the use of the Irish language – ach sin scéal eile.

Naomi Rousseau *(Principal)*

UPDATE FROM: CORMAC DEVLIN, TD

I hope you are all keeping well. It has been a busy few weeks since the last edition.

The war in the Middle East is causing untold suffering for civilians in the region and significant disruption to international markets, which will have implications for Ireland. I have raised the need for Government supports to assist households should the conflict continue to drive energy and fuel costs higher.

I also recently had the honour of representing the Oireachtas at the United Nations, and during St. Patrick's week travelled to South Carolina, Philadelphia and Washington DC. During these visits I engaged with members of the Irish diaspora, as well as community, business and political leaders.

A key focus of these discussions was the importance of continuing to invest in Ireland and sustain the strong economic relationship that supports jobs and helps to fund services here at home.

◆ FUEL ALLOWANCE EXPANDED FOR WORKING FAMILIES

I was very glad to see the Fuel Allowance extended to working families in receipt of the **Working Family Payment.** In Dublin, an additional 12,300 households are now due to receive the allowance, bringing the total number of recipients across the county to 102,090.

For many families, this will make a real difference with heating and energy bills. The payment is worth €38 per week, and eligible households may also receive a back payment of up to €380, backdated to 1st January 2026.

Fuel Allowance remains subject to a means test in most cases, but the income limits are more generous for older people. **Those aged 66 and over can now qualify with weekly means of up to €524 for a single person or €1,048 for a couple.**

With the scheme now extended to those on the Working Family Payment, I would strongly encourage anyone who thinks they may qualify to check their eligibility and apply.

◆ ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES

Where a household is experiencing particular financial difficulty, support may be available through the **Additional Needs Payment** administered by the Community Welfare Service. Budgets for these supports have increased, and Minister for Social Protection Dara Calleary has encouraged anyone facing difficulty to contact their local Community Welfare Officer. Please get in touch with my office if you need advice.

◆ HOUSING ADAPTATION GRANTS

There was also very welcome news for Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown, with €5,822,287 allocated in 2026 under the **Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and Disabled People Scheme.** Nationally, the programme will support around 17,000 home adaptation projects this year, helping people live safely and independently in their own homes.

The scheme has three main elements:
Housing Adaptation Grant for Disabled People provides grants of up to €40,000 for significant works such as ramps, stairlifts, accessible showers, wheelchair access improvements, and where necessary ground-floor bedroom or bathroom extensions.

Cormac
Devlin TD
Advice Clinics
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Housing Aid for Older People Grant offers up to €10,700 to assist older residents with essential repairs including roofing, rewiring and heating upgrades.

Mobility Aids Grant provides up to €8,000 for smaller, faster works such as grab rails, access ramps, stairlifts and level-access showers.

These grants make a real difference for families, improving quality of life and helping people remain in their homes and communities for longer. Full details are available at dlrcoco.ie, but please feel free to contact my office if you would like advice.

◆ KEEPING IN TOUCH

My **monthly Advice Clinic** takes place in **Brady's of Shankill** on the last Saturday of each month, excluding Bank Holidays.

To make an appointment, please contact **Michael Reynolds** in my office on 01 275 0786 or email *cormac@cormacdevlin.ie*

Cormac Devlin TD speaking at the United Nations 2026

FROM CLASSROOM TO CAREER: WOODBROOK COLLEGE HOSTS AN INSPIRING FAIR

Careers Fair brings together alumni, organisations and students for a look at life after Woodbrook.

On the 25th of February, the Woodbrook College Careers Fair took place. The school welcomed eight past pupils back to the school, each of whom have taken many different paths since they graduated ten years ago. These students trained in careers including solicitor, zookeeper, mental health engagement officer, aerospace engineer, cloud engineer, actuary, governance and legal compliance in the business sector, greenkeeping and horticulture. There were also professionals in attendance from the ambulance service, community food and nutrition, apprenticeships and skills trades, accountancy, banking, hairdressing and beauty. Some of the teachers in Woodbrook College gave an insight into their own careers including Jess Curtis who gave a talk on sports coaching and Megan Byrne who spoke about building a career in the music industry.

Crowds began to arrive at the school shortly before the beginning of the fair, and they were helped to find their way by our Transition Year students who volunteered at the event.

In the sports hall, visitors had the chance to speak to various organisations and third level institutions, such as An Garda Síochána, Irish Defence Force, Technological University Dublin (TUD) and Bray Institute of Further Education to name but a few. Transition year students Molly Weafer and Aysha Murray also had a stall in the hall to chat about their TY work experience with younger pupils.

Talks by guest speakers took place in classrooms. Kayleigh Howick gave an engaging talk about her career and journey to her current position as radiographer. Gym owner & boxing coach Reg Byrne discussed how he combined professional sports coaching with running a small business.

The careers fair was a great opportunity for young people from all around Bray to get a taste of many different career options after school. It also gave parents and current 3rd and 4th year students from Woodbrook College and surrounding schools guidance and advice about upcoming Senior Cycle subject choices.

The event was organised and coordinated by staff and students, and it was great to see how past pupils from the school have progressed in their careers. We would like to thank the guest speakers who gave their time to speak at the event, and to parents, students and teachers from the locality who attended. Each person played a part in making the event such a success.

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ó Barry Ward TD

Tá áthas orm a bheith in ann an tuarascáil mhíosúil seo a chur i láthair daoibh. Mar bhur dTeachta Dála de chuid Fhine Gael, táim ag obair go dian i dteannta mo chomhghleacaithe i Seanchill - agus sa Rialtas - chun torthaí a bhaint amach daoibh.

I am delighted to be able to present this monthly report to you. As your Fine Gael TD, I am working hard along with my colleagues in Shankill - and in Government - to deliver results for you.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS:

From July to December 2026, Ireland will host the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. As Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on European Affairs, I am very conscious of the role Ireland can play at the heart of Europe.

I recently hosted a 'EuroClinic' with Regina Doherty MEP, which gave members of the local community an opportunity to meet their local Member of the European Parliament and discuss a range of issues.

If you are interested in EU programmes like Erasmus, or jobs in the EU, please don't hesitate to reach out to me for information.

SHANKILL GAA:

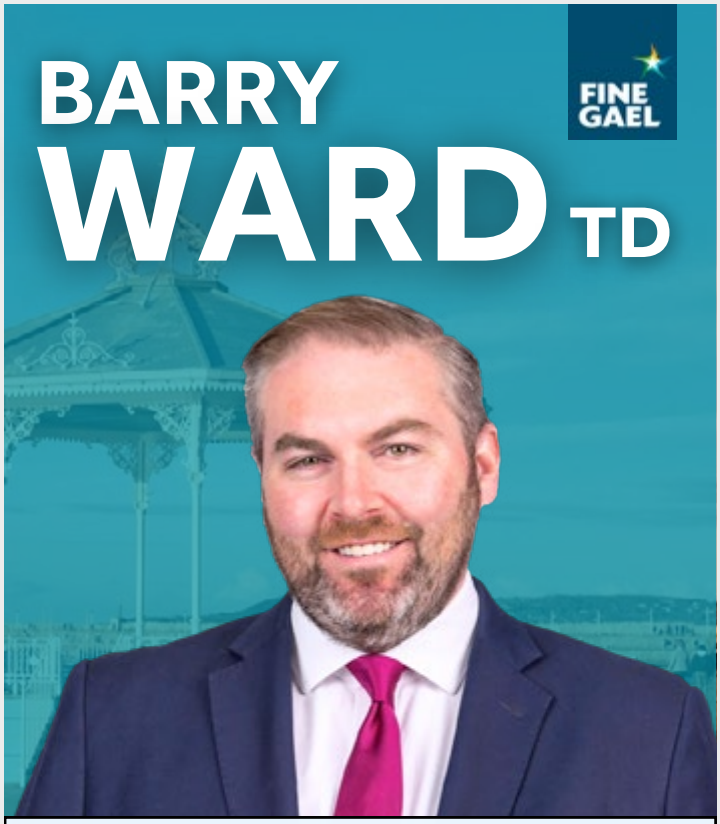
I continue to work with Shankill GAA to progress a number of issues for the club, including greater access to all-weather playing pitch facilities. With a growing population in areas like Shanganagh comes a growing need for community infrastructure and amenities.

SEN PLACES FOR SHANKILL:

In the Dáil, I questioned the Minister for Education and Youth regarding the shortage of Special Educational Needs (SEN) places in primary schools in Shankill.

According to the Minister, efforts are being made to address SEN shortages across County Dublin. Parents have been asked to notify the NCSE if they need a special class place so demand can be properly planned. Using this information, the NCSE will assess where additional special classes are needed for the 2026/27 school year.

I will continue to speak up for adequate special education places in the Shankill area, and to work with the NCSE and the Department to ensure that local families can access the supports their children need.



Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2
T: +353 85 157 8000 E: barry.ward@oireachtas.ie
barrym_ward Barry Ward TD

MOCK TRIALS WITH RATHMICHAEL PARISH NS:

As you may know, in addition to my role as a TD, I am a criminal barrister, Senior Counsel and Counsel to the International Criminal Court.

I recently held a mock trial with the Sixth Class students of Rathmichael Parish National School. The children took on various courtroom roles as they learned about how our justice system works. If you would like to set up a mock trial in your school, please let me know.

Mock trial in Rathmichael Parish National School

GET IN TOUCH WITH ME:

My office is always available to assist you with any local or national issue. Please get in touch by phone at 085 157 8000 (feel free to drop us a WhatsApp message), or email barry.ward@oireachtas.ie.

Your local Fine Gael team: Barry Ward TD, Minister Jennifer Carroll MacNeill TD, Cllr. Jim Gildea, Cllr. Jacqueline Burke, Cllr. Frank McNamara, Regina Doherty MEP

SCHOOL NEWS: SCOIL MHUIRE

Chess

Scoil Mhuire hosted one of the annual Féile Fichille tournaments in which 120 students battled it out competitively for the day, playing six chess matches each. Well done to St. Anne's, St. Joseph's and the Bray School Project for taking part.

Lego Club

Some of the children in 1st, 2nd and 3rd class have recently started Lego Club. The children are enjoying exploring the bricks with great excitement and curiosity. They are working together to build creative structures, from tall buildings to imaginative settings for their favourite book and movie characters. It is wonderful to see them sharing ideas and proudly showing their creations to one another.

Spring has finally sprung!

Ms Kenny's class have been busy celebrating the arrival of spring by creating colourful spring insect artwork. The classroom was filled with creativity as the children designed bright butterflies, buzzing bees and other cheerful insects. The children have also been enjoying the return of the longer, brighter days, which have brought lots of smiles and energy to the classroom.

Turning Tokens into Tales!

Ms Kenny's class recently enjoyed a visit to Dubray Bookshop to exchange their World Book Day tokens for new books. The students were a credit to the school throughout the trip, showing excellent manners and enthusiasm while choosing their books. The staff in the shop commented on how polite and respectful they were. We were extremely proud of their behaviour and how well they represented the school. Happy reading everyone!

EAL in Scoil Mhuire

The EAL group in Scoil Mhuire were looking at people in the community who help us, and we took a trip on the DART to Bray to visit the team there! They told us all about the work they do, how to be safe around trains, and even answered a few of our questions! What do you do if you get hungry on a train? Bring a packed lunch, says the staff!

Scoil Mhuire
PRIMARY SCHOOL SHANKILL
NOW ENROLLING
IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING ENROLLING YOUR CHILD, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE TO MEET OUR CURRENT INFANT TEACHERS AND VIEW OUR INFANT CLASSROOMS
Please drop into the office for an application form or download one from www.primaryschoolshankill.ie and return by post or via email to secretary@scoilmhuireshankill.ie
Induction meeting for parents and orientation day for children details to follow
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ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. CARRIE SMYTH

◆ ROAD SURFACE – CASTLE FARM

I received representations from residents of Castle Farm regarding the road surface within Castle Farm. I contacted the Road Maintenance Section in dlr and I received the following reply:

"Thanks for sending in your CRM387540 request regarding the road surface within Castle Farm. The area engineer has indicated that the County Council is aware of the condition and an evaluation considered both the severity of the damage found and the impact on local residents. Following this assessment, it has been determined that the necessary repairs can be delivered under the Sustainable Road Patching Programme 2026, where sections will be patched and made safe. These works will be completed in due course."

◆ PARKING AT SHANGANAGH CEMETERY AND SHANGANAGH PARK CAR PARK

I received numerous representations from constituents regarding the lack of parking at Shanganagh Cemetery and Shanganagh Park Car Park due to all day parking. I contacted the Parks Department at dlr and I received the following reply:

"The intended use of the car park in Shanganagh Park is to provide free parking to people visiting the park and cemetery for short periods.

It does not fall within the Council's designated Paid Parking Control Areas where enforcement action can be taken by Traffic Wardens under the Parking Control Bye-Laws 2026.

While we do not have statistical data on the use of the car park, there has been an increase in the number of people parking in the car park all day. The possible reasons behind this increase are:

- *The number of construction workers driving to work on the neighbouring housing developments*
- *The opening of the DART station and the possible use of the car park as a 'Park and Ride' facility*
- *Resident's living in the neighbouring housing development who do not have designated parking within their estate*

The Parks Section has identified a piece of unused open space within the park that will be made available to employees of the construction companies to park their vehicles during the construction of Shanganagh Castle and Woodbrook Estate. We expect this will ease the pressure on the car park but may not alleviate the problem completely.

We will continue to monitor the situation in the coming months and if necessary, will consider how to ensure the car park remains free for short-term visitors to the park and cemetery to use, but to discourage people from parking there for longer periods."

◆ SHANKILL LIBRARY

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the current works and any future works that will be carried out to Shankill Library and when will the current works be completed and Library re-open?

Reply: The current phase of works in Shankill library is the ongoing conservation and improvement works. The first phase of work was the restoration of the windows in Shankill and the installation of secondary glazing. As part of the Shankill works, a building audit was carried out. It identified that emergency remedial works were required. These works need to be completed before we can progress energy upgrades.

The remedial works are to the roof, repairs of eaves, cast iron rainwater goods repair and vent pipes cleaned and replaced, new attic hatch and insulation and other essential conservation work. As this is a heritage building, particular care is required to maintain the integrity of the site. The nature of the works required that the library was closed for the public and staff. These works commenced in January 2026 and have progressed well, despite the inclement weather.

The next phase of work includes a full re-wire of the building; energy works and some access works. The contractor appointed to do the internal works on the library, has now agreed on a timeframe for the works to be delivered. As per the contractor's schedule, this work will take approx. 70 days.

We are aware that library users in Shankill are missing their library building. In the interim we are providing a temporary library facility, upstairs at Stonebridge Community Facility, D18 FH04, with services available Monday – Thursday from 10am-4pm. The service includes newspapers, printing services, child and adult seating, access to book stock, borrow a laptop for use, and borrowers can request and return library material via the national distribution service.

Owner: Catherine Gallagher, County Librarian, Community, Culture and Parks Directorate

◆ PUMP TRACK - SHANKILL AREA

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to install a pump track in the Shankill Area similar to the one that opened in Wicklow Town in November 2025?

Reply: There are currently no current plans or funds available for the installation of a pump track in the Shankill area.

Owner: Jim Ryan, Senior Executive Officer

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ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. JIM GILDEA

◆ COOLEVALLEY DEVELOPMENT, SHANKILL

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to provide the following information for the Coolevalley development in Shankill: a) The number of units listed by bedroom number. b) When will the first units be available for allocation? c) When is it expected that the development be completed.

Reply: The Coolevalley development in Shankill has delivered 9 x studio apartments, 56 x one bed apartments and 29 x 2 bed apartments. Allocation of the units has commenced and nine of these units have been allocated and the tenants have signed tenancies. The Housing Allocations Section is in the process of sending further nominations for these properties to the AHB. The delivery was completed on 5th December 2025 and delivered 94 properties (including 19 Part V properties under AHB Calf Turnkey).

◆ SHANGANAGH CASTLE SOCIAL HOUSING SCHEME

Question: To ask the Chief Executive if there are many complaints from the residents of the homes in the Shanganagh Castle social housing scheme regarding problems with the finish of the units, building defects, the heating system and parking problems within the estate and adjoining housing estates and on the access road to Shanganagh Park?

Reply: There have been a low number of complaints regarding the heating system from the social housing tenants in Shanganagh Castle, all of which have been rectified. The Council arranged a demonstration of the heating system for its tenants, and this was received well. There have been no complaints from social housing tenants regarding the finish of the units, building defects, or parking issues. The car parking enforcement within Shanganagh Castle estate is an issue for the management company.

◆ LURGANBRAE, BRAY ROAD, SHANKILL

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the recent site clearance of the lands at Lurganbrae, Bray Road, Shankill, in particular can the Chief Executive say:- If our Biodiversity Officer was informed in advance of the clearance. If a biodiversity report was provided to the Council before the work commenced on the February Bank Holiday Monday If an Arborists Report was undertaken, and provided to the council, before the wholesale removal of trees on the site. In addition, can the Chief Executive say if any pre-plannings have taken place regarding the site?

Reply: DLR Parks staff and Biodiversity Officer were not notified of the site clearance, which appears to be on private lands. DLR Biodiversity Officer has no powers in relation to these works but has notified the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) of the matter. From a planning perspective the cutting back or full removal of trees that are within the curtilage of a residential property does not constitute development for the purposes of the Planning and Development Act, therefore any reports of same such as those received in respect of this site, do not fall within the remit of planning enforcement. The Planning Authority cannot comment in respect of any pre-planning consultation in accordance with Section 247(5A) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, which states-: "A record kept by a planning authority under subsection (5) shall only be made public when a planning application in respect of the proposed development is made in accordance with section 34."

Councillor
JIM GILDEA
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Cllr Jim Gildea
@jimgildea2014
Working with your Fine Gael team in Shankill: Min. Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill TD, Barry Ward TD, Cllr Frank McNamara, Cllr. Jacqueline Burke, and Regina Doherty MEP
FINE GAEL

◆ UPDATE ON CLIFTON PARK IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Question: To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the Clifton Park / Rathsallagh improvement scheme following the recent meeting on the subject at Shanganagh Park House.

Reply: The submissions and observations are being assessed and an update meeting with the ward Councillors is being arranged to discuss these and the emerging design. Following this, a public consultation report and design will be published.

◆ VARIATION NO. 1 OF THE 2022 – 2028 COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Chief Executive, following a directive from the Minister for Housing and Local Government & Heritage, has initiated the process of modifying the County Development Plan 2022-2028. The purpose of the variation is to zone sufficient additional lands to accommodate an additional c. 2200 housing units in the county. Some of the lands proposed for rezoning are in the Shankill area, specifically some of the area between Crinken Lane and Wilford roundabout and lands surrounding Woodbrook House opposite Woodbrook College. I am opposed to the proposal brought forward by the CEO and I will attempt to get some of the proposals changed or removed. The meeting to decide on the variation will be held on 14th April 2026. The proposal would remove almost the entire green belt along the western side of the Dublin Road as well as the area opposite Woodbrook College.

CABINTEELY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

50TH ANNIVERSARY

FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

Open House
3.30-5.00pm

Past, present, and always - you're welcome back to celebrate 50 years of memories at your own pace! Refreshments served.

Celebration Ceremony
5.00-6.00pm

Featuring guest speakers, former principals and live music. You are all welcome for an evening of nostalgia, memories, and reflection.

Cabinteely Community School, D18VH73

SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE

February has been a busy and heartwarming month at Shankill Seniors Centre, with members enjoying a variety of activities that celebrate friendship, community spirit and staying active together.

The centre was filled with warmth and laughter as our members came together to celebrate Valentine's Day. The day was a lovely occasion focused on friendship, kindness and connection, with plenty of love filling the room. Decorations, treats and cheerful conversation created a wonderful atmosphere where everyone could enjoy spending time together. Events like these are always special for our members and highlight the strong sense of community that makes the centre such a welcoming place.

Another highlight of the month was welcoming our friends from the Alzheimer Society of Ireland in Crinken Church, who spent the day with us as we took part in Denim for Dementia Day. Members and visitors proudly wore their denim to raise awareness and show support for those living with dementia. It was a meaningful day that brought everyone together in support of an important cause.

Our members have also been keeping active with some fantastic chair boxing sessions. We were delighted to welcome Jack Marley and Kenneth Doyle from Monkstown Boxing Club and Local Shankill Thai boxing champion Emma Usher O'Neill from Warrior Thai Boxing Gym who has supported the Chair Boxing programme, bringing her experience and energy to the sessions and encouraging participants as they took part in the boxing exercises. The classes have been a great success, with plenty of enthusiasm and participation from our members.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such support from local sports clubs and athletes who are willing to get involved with the centre and help our members stay active. Their generosity in sharing their time and skills helps ensure that older members of our community have opportunities to take part in fun, accessible activities that promote movement, confidence and wellbeing. The participation from local sports groups makes a real difference and is greatly appreciated by everyone at the centre.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the organisers and participants of the Shankill Community Christmas Day Swim. We were absolutely delighted to be one of the beneficiaries of this fantastic community event. Despite challenging weather and high waves on Christmas morning, Brian Mason and his team of swimmers bravely took to the sea and raised an incredible €16,000 for local community groups. A heartfelt thank you goes to Brian Mason, John Brady, and the entire Shankill community for their generosity and support. The funds raised were divided between three local organisations that serve the community: St John of God, Scoil Mhuire, and ourselves.

Support like this makes a real difference and helps us continue to provide activities, companionship and a welcoming space for older members of our community.

As we move into the spring months, we look forward to many more gatherings, activities and opportunities to bring people together. We are very grateful for the continued kindness and community spirit shown by so many people in Shankill, which helps make the centre such a special place.

Shankill Seniors Centre is always delighted to welcome new members to join our community. If you or someone you know would like to find out more about our services, activities, or supports, please contact us on 01-2826364 or email ***shankilldcc@gmail.com***. We would be very happy to hear from you and welcome you to the centre.

Stephen McGovern *Trading as*

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PLANNING NOTICES *compiled by Cllr. Jim Gildea*

We are aware that some of the notices about planning applications and decisions are out of date by the time you receive your SCAN but we believe our readers would like to know what is going on in their area. We would like to remind you to keep a look out for new planning notices and, if you need further information, go to the Planning Office in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall, Marine Road and request to see the plans.

D26B/0067/WEB Seeking Permission Date:06/02/2026
Jean and Barry O'Dwyer, 19, Rathmichael Manor, Loughlinstown, D18PP93
Permission for the development of an existing semi-detached dwelling. The development will consist of the following principle items; 1) Construction of a first-floor extension with a pitched roof to the side, over the single-storey side extension and side passage; 2) Conversion of the attic space, including the addition of 4 no. velux windows to the rear; 3) Alterations to the internal layout, main roof and elevations, along with all associated landscaping and ancillary works.

D25A/0533/WEB Seeking Permission Date:04/07/2025 Add. Info. Rec'd16/02/2026
Auro Naes Ltd T/A Roesavin Construction Ltd, Shanganagh Cottage, Dublin Road, Shankill, D18E0W9
Planning permission sought for the demolition of an existing house and garage and for the erection of three detached buildings containing a total of ten houses. Eight of these dwellings would be contained within two three-storey buildings, each accommodating four terraced dwellings providing between two and three bedrooms, as well as kitchen / bathroom / dining / living and storage space and with a third building containing a pair of semi-detached two storey houses providing two bedrooms and kitchen / bathroom / dining / living accommodation. The development includes the closure of an existing vehicular entrance to the site and the creation of separate access and egress points (which would be linked by an internal one-way driveway), the provision of communal open areas for outdoor recreational purposes, along with individual gardens (containing external structures for storage / cycles), as well as eight car parking bays and one disabled driver parking space, as well as communal cycle parking facilities (for a total of ten bicycles) and one cargo bicycle space. The application includes connections to the public mains water supply and sewerage systems, along with all site works including landscaping, a rainwater harvesting system and the creation of a pedestrian gateway between the site and an area of public open space behind this land.

D25A/0732/WEB Seeking Permission Date:24/09/2025 Add. Info. Rec'd 16/02/2026
Jennifer Fitzpatrick, Eoghcill, Quarry Road, Shankill, D18Y6Y0
The construction of a single storey horse stable block (200m2) to the rear of the existing dwelling, recontouring of ground, which will enable formation of a new outdoor paddock for horses (50x30m), provision of fencing and external lighting to paddock, new surface water drainage soakaway system, new roofed dungstead (10 m2) and soiled water underground storage tank (8,500 litres); and all ancillary and related site works necessary to facilitate the development.

D26A/0118/WEB Seeking Permission Date:20/02/2026
D26A/0118/WEB Declare Application Invalid Date: 02/03/2026
Hillfield Estate Owners' Management Company, Hillfield Estate, Ferndale Road, Shankill, Dublin 18
Permission to omit Condition No. 11 of Reg. Ref. D07A/0163, which states that 'the proposed communal open spaces, grouped carparking areas, all external elevations and access roads within the site shall be retained in private ownership and maintained by a properly constituted Management Company. Membership of this Company shall be compulsory for all purchasers of property on the development. Confirmation that this Company has been set up shall be submitted to the Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the first residential unit.' No works are proposed as part of this application.

D25A/0887/WEB Seeking Permission Date:20/11/2025 Additional Information Rec'd 23/02/2026
Peadar and Marian Ward, Kiltuc, Dublin Road, Shankill, D18K5N8
Development on site to rear of existing dwelling comprising demolition of garage and subsequent provision of vehicular gateway from Rathmichael Park, Shankill on north-west boundary, subdivision boundary wall, part two-storey / part single-storey dwelling, replacement garage and associated site works including part raised ground levels.

D26A/0147/WEB Seeking Permission Date:27/02/2026
Beechfield Owners Management Company, Beechfield Haven, Maryland and Maryland House, Shankill, Dublin 18
Permission to modify the tenure of 31 no. existing sheltered housing units/retirement homes [known as nos. 1 - 14 Maryland, and nos. 1 - 17 Maryland House constructed on foot of planning permissions Reg. Refs.: D95A/0043 & D95A/0564 and Reg. Refs.: D96A/0325 & D98A/0488 respectively] by the addition of a specific age limit "for persons over 50 years of age"

D25A/0333/WEB Clarification Of A.I. 06/03/2026 Date: 24/04/2025
Kilternan Cemetery Park Limited, Ballycorus Road, Kilternan, Dublin 18
Permission for development on a site at Ballycorus Road, Kilternan, Dublin 18, located in the townlands of Tiknick, Glenamuck South and Ballycorus. The site is located on the southern side of Ballycorus Road. The proposed development is an amendment to the development permitted under Reg. Ref.: D21A/0502, which relates to an extension to Kilternan Cemetery Park. The proposed amendments relate to the southern portion of the permitted extension to Kilternan Cemetery Park and consist of the following:
• Provision of a Place of Worship building with a total gross floor area (GFA) of c. 900 sq.m, including worship space, multifunction area, reflection pool, courtyard, family rooms and associated facilities;
• Landscaping, including infilling and regrading works for the Place of Worship building, new planting to supplement existing trees and hedgerows on the site, soft and hard landscaping and boundary treatments;
• Associated amendments to permitted parking, burial plots and related infrastructure to facilitate the siting of the new Place of Worship building;
• All other associated site development works.

D26A/0170/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 05/03/2026
Paul & Anne Harold, 13, Shrewsbury Hall, Shankill, D18E1C7
The development consists of: 1) Single story 39m² extension to side and front for independent living unit; 2) New 3.1m² entrance porch to front; 3) All associated site development works, drainage, and, SuDS measures to facilitate the development.

D26B/0126/WEB Permission for Retention Date: 06/03/2026
Jon Garaba & Diane McCabe, 2 Eaton Wood Avenue, Shankill, D18PC42
Retention permission for canopy and garden shed to rear of house. Application Type: Permission for Retention

PAC/LRD2/002/26 Pre-Planning LRD Application
Peter Opio, Lands to the north of Old Connaught Avenue, Old Connaught, Co Dublin
The proposed development consists 272no. residential units in a mix of houses and duplex / apartment units comprising of 104 X 2 to 3 storey houses (23 4-bedroom, 68 3-bedroom, and 13 2-bedroom houses), 117 X 2-bedroom apartments and 45 X 1-bedroom apartment units, 6 X 3-bedroom duplex units, creche (c. 592.6 sqm) at ground floor of apartment block 3, and all associated and ancillary site development and infrastructural works, hard and soft landscaping and boundary treatment works, including public open space; communal open space; regional attenuation pond; public lighting; surface car parking spaces; bicycle parking spaces/stores for houses and duplex / apartment units; 4 XESB Substation; bin stores; the proposed development is accessed from proposed primary north-south street into the Central Character Area Lands-East. The proposed development will also comprise a new pumping station and storage as required and all associated and ancillary site development and reinstatement.

PLANNING DECISIONS

D25A/0946/WEB Refuse Permission Date:09/02/2026
Gavin Fogarty, Rose Cottage, 26 Cherrywood Road, Shankill, D18P4A7
Permission for the relocation of existing vehicular access northwards to improve sightlines; provision of a pedestrian gate; the setting back of the western boundary onto Cherrywood Road by up to c. 0.7 metres, widening of existing footpath; and associated works.

D25A/0950/WEB Refuse Permission Date:11/02/2026
Whitefern Rock Limitedu, Coltsfoot, Dublin Road, Shankill, D18F8W6
Permission sought for the demolition of existing dwelling house (313.14m²) and removal of existing front boundary wall and for the construction of A) New stone boundary walls with pedestrian access and new vehicular site entrance onto Dublin Road B) The construction of 35 Apartments in 3 separate apartment blocks ranging in height from 3 to 4 floors (with floors 3 & 4 set back).
Block A – 10 Apartments consisting of 5No 1 bed apartments, 3No 2 bed apartments and 2No 3 bed triplex units and communal bin store.
Block B -12 Apartments consisting of 5No 1 bed apartments, 4No 2 bed apartments and 3No 3 bed triplex units.
Block C – 13 Apartments consisting of 5No 1 bed apartments, 5No 2 bed apartments and 3No 3 bed triplex units.
Block C will also accommodate an MV Substation, communal bin storage, secure bulk storage, secure bicycle storage, EV charging area for mobility scooters. 18 X car parking spaces including 2 X car share parking spaces, 67 X bicycle parking spaces and for all associated site works relevant to the development

D25A/0981 Grant Permission Date:19/02/2026
Peter Clegg, 53 Shanganagh Cliffs, Shankill, D18C522
Permission sought for the demolition and replacement of existing rear sheds and side walls and the construction of a new two storey dwelling with all associated site development works, drainage, driveway and landscape to accommodate works

D25A/0882/WEB Grant Permission Date:25/02/2026
Aiden and Laura Durkan, Lynwood, Castlegate, Ferndale Road, Shankill, D18N526
Permission for 1. Construction of an extension at first floor level over the existing flat roof to the north of the existing dwelling; 2. Removal of the existing pitched roof and construction of an extension at first floor level to the south of existing dwelling; 3. Construction of a new flat roofed single storey extension to the rear (west) of the existing house; 4. Construction of a new single storey dining room extension with glazed roof to the south of the existing dwelling; 5. Construction of a new single storey open-sided carport to the north of the existing dwelling; 6. Alterations to the existing fenestration on all elevations; 7. Internal alterations and refurbishment works to existing house; 8. Installation of a new wastewater treatment system; 9. Installation of new hard landscaping to perimeter of house; 10. The development will include all associated site development and drainage works.

D26A/0008/WEB Request Additional Information Date: 04/03/2026
Amirite Limited,, a site containing Barn Close, Barn Close Lodge, Beechlands and Shanganagh Castle, on the Shanganagh Road, Shankill, Dublin 18 (Protected Structure)
The proposed development consists of the following: Demolition of the bungalow (Barn Close Lodge) located on the eastern boundary of the site and existing outbuildings and structures on the application site. Refurbishment of Beechlands House and Barn Close as 2 no. 5 bed dwellings. Provision of a total of 68 no. residential units, comprising:29 no. 2 storey 3 bed houses to be provided in a mix of terraces, semi-detached and detached houses; 8 no. duplex units comprising 4 no. 2 bed units and 4 no. of 3 bed units, in a terrace of 4 no. 3 storey duplexes, each comprising 1 no. 2 bed at ground level and 1 no. 3 bed at upper levels; First-storey outdoor terraces are provided on the southern elevation of the duplexes; 31 no. apartments comprising 9 no. 1 bed apartments and 22 no. 2 bed apartments, within a part 3 and part 4 storey apartment block. Balconies are provided for all apartments on the eastern, western and south-western elevations. Retention and structural works to Shanganagh Castle and incorporation into a landscaped area which is publicly accessible.
Vehicular and pedestrian access via an upgrade of the existing entrance from Shanganagh Road. The proposal includes alterations and improvements to Shanganagh Road, including provision of footpath and new pedestrian crossing to the south. A road reservation is provided for on the south eastern portion of the site to cater for the Six Year Road Objective to upgrade Shanganagh Road.
The development also includes 73 no. car parking spaces (59 no. at surface level and 14 no. at ground level within the apartment building), 101 no. of cycle parking spaces (26 no. at surface level and 31 no. at ground level within the apartment building and 44 no. spaces in free-standing secure enclosures). Infrastructural works include foul and surface water drainage, landscaping, provision of public and communal open space, boundary treatment, lighting, landscaping, bin stores and PV panels at roof level and all associated site works.

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